

***Argia moesta* (Hagen)**

**Powdered Dancer**

**30 May - 26 Sep**

**Common**

**MALE: 37-42 mm (1.5-1.7 in.) FEMALE: 38-42.5 (1.5-1.7)**

**Medium**

**MALE:** Body: North America's only mostly white damselfly. Head/Thorax: brown w/ whitish pruinosity. Abdomen: dark w/ pale rings; S9-10 whitish pruinosity. Stigmas: light brown. Appendages: very short.

**FEMALE:** Color forms: Blue: Thorax: black shoulder stripes usually reduced to a thin line. Abdomen: pale brown or bluish. Ovipositor: tan. Brown: Abdomen: brown w/ tan rings; sides of seg 9 tan.

**JUVENILE:** Thorax: tan w/ wide black middorsal stripe/wide, usually forked, black shoulder stripe. Abdomen: black/smoky brown.

**Habitat:** Extensive sunlit sections of large rivers/rapid streams; gravel bars in full sun. Lakes. Rocky shores of lentic waters. Perches horizontally on ground, rocks, or sticks, frequently flying over open water. Fairly tolerant of polluted waters.

**Reproduction:** Mate for 15-30 minutes. Female oviposits in tandem on algae-covered rocks or wood; female turns dark. Pair or female may descend under water 3-6" for up to an hour; Male may rise to surface sooner and guard female. Exuviae on stones or logs well above water level.

**Similar Species:** Female like *A. apicalis* except mesostigmal plates.

**Locations:** Avalon, Cattail, Centennial - L, Daniels, Henryton, Kittamaqundi, Marriottsville, Old Frederick, Savage Park, Woodstock.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)